

# 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

**Lessons Learned, Lessons Missed,  
& Lessons Preferred**

*Post-Conflict Reconstruction in  
Bosnia and Herzegovina*

# Our Supporters

Humanity in Action BiH cordially thanks the National Endowment for Democracy and Messer BH Gas for their generous support of this Fellowship. We thank our speakers and Senior Fellows. Without their dedicated help, the realization of this program would not be possible.



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The content of this program does not necessarily represent an expression of opinion by any of the aforementioned organizations or individuals.

# About Humanity in Action

Humanity in Action is a collaborative, international learning community of individuals from or based in Europe and the United States committed to the values of pluralism, liberal democracy, social justice, and human rights, particularly in the transatlantic context. We seek to promote these values through different forms of civic engagement shaped by the specific historical and cultural contexts in which we live.

- We **educate** to encourage critical exploration of liberal democracy, pluralism, and human rights, within the specific national historical, and contemporary contexts of our Fellowship programs.
- We **connect** an ever-growing transatlantic community to promote continual learning and collaboration.
- We **inspire** action for advancing human rights, social justice, and equity.

Through our work:

- We **affirm** the importance of strengthening democratic values.
- We **foster** environments in which individuals of diverse backgrounds and identities can engage openly and respectfully with contentious and challenging ideas and each other.
- We **support** a vision of pluralistic societies that embrace differences and negotiate their boundaries through constructive political, social, and personal dialogue and relationships.
- We **build** a multinational, inter-generational community of emerging and established leaders who share the Humanity in Action values.

## **PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE**

We believe that an important test of a genuine democracy is how it advances social equity and pluralism. We strengthen the commitment of our community to democratic values and foster knowledge around past and present human rights challenges.

The intellectual touchstone for Humanity in Action, founded in 1997, has been the study of acts of resistance - and lack thereof - during the Second World War and the Holocaust. These events raise critical questions: Why do some people resist while others remain bystanders? What connects those who recognize the need to resist? How are acts of resistance influenced by national and historical contexts?

Since Humanity in Action was founded with a focus on the 1943 flight and rescue of the Jews in Denmark during the Holocaust, we have grown conceptually, intellectually, and geographically. Our scope has expanded to include the legacies of American slavery and the Jim Crow era; colonialism and migration; peacebuilding and transitional justice in the Balkans; transitions from authoritarian to democratic forms of government in post-communist societies to other human rights challenges in Europe and the United States.

## **THE FELLOWSHIPS**

Intensive and demanding, the Fellowship brings together international groups of university students and recent graduates to explore national histories of discrimination and resistance, as well as examples of issues affecting different minority groups today.

# About Humanity in Action Bosnia and Herzegovina

Humanity in Action Bosnia and Herzegovina is a collaborative educational organization that strives to build a network of students and young professionals committed to promoting human rights, diversity and active citizenship. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we particularly focus on promoting reconciliation and rebuilding social trust among deeply divided ethnic and religious groups. We are driven by a very strong idealism and identification with the larger organization and its mission are evident among fellows, senior fellows, program staff, leadership and board members. The main objectives and activities of Humanity in Action Bosnia and Herzegovina include the realization of peaceful and sustainable future in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region through education, networking and cooperation of youth with the aim of developing mutual respect and cultural, religious and ethnic tolerance in the international environment, as well as raising awareness of social problems, injustice, humanitarian work through domestic and international projects.

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the 2022 Humanity in Action Fellowships take place both virtually and in person from June 1 to 30, 2022. We thank our Fellows for their trust and willingness to experiment collaboratively. Due to the hybrid nature of the program, we will start the Fellowship with the entire cohort of 90 Fellows joining the Humanity in Action Fellowship programs.

This year's Sarajevo Fellowship brings together carefully selected university students and recent graduates from Europe and the United States to explore historic and contemporary human rights issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Fellows meet with activists, artists, experts, and policymakers to explore a variety of human rights issues, including how and why individuals and societies, past and present, have resisted intolerance and protected democratic values.



# FELLOWSHIP 2022

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# Introduction to the Theme

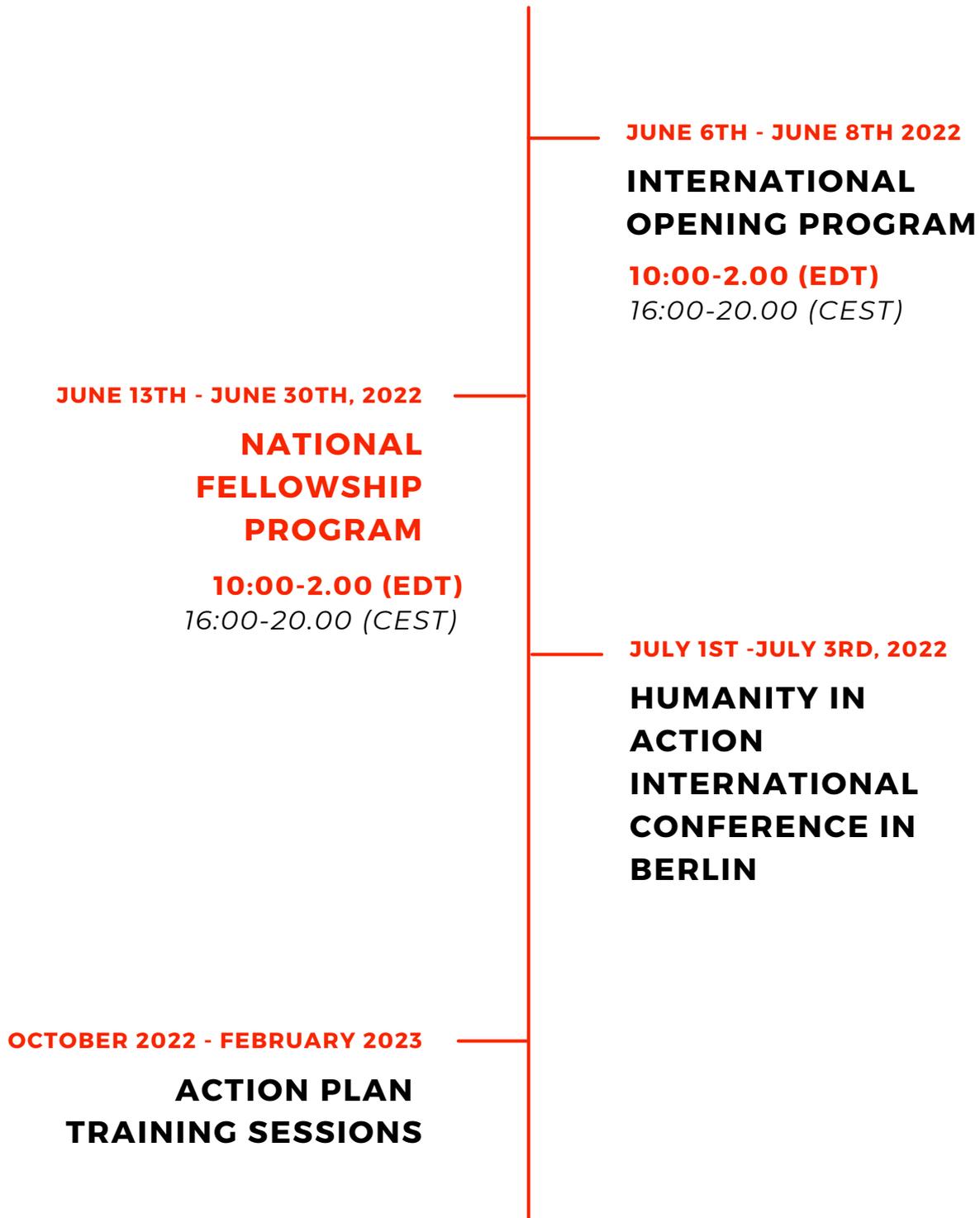
No two wars are alike. Nonetheless, the images of Kyiv's siege have instantly prompted countless traumatic memories of citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sarajevo, reminding them of the dark days in a besieged city between 1992 and 1995. Massacre in Bucha, mass destruction of Mariupol and numerous other cities in Ukraine have inevitably woken up the deep emotions and suffering the BiH's citizens experienced across the country, most notably in Srebrenica, Prijedor, and many other places.

The words like “safe areas”, “no-fly zone”, or “humanitarian aid and corridors” do not mean the same to all people; to those who lived to see their effects in the 1990s, in the Balkans, and nowadays, in Ukraine or other places; to those who read about them and to those who experience their effects in real life.

There are some important lessons from Bosnia and Herzegovina worth examining in relation to the ongoing conflicts in the world. The 2022 Humanity in Action Sarajevo Fellowship, however, did not focus on the effects or the features of conflict itself, but the post-conflict reconstruction process and its dynamics. It delved deep into the topics related to and connected with the role of local leadership, the role of the international community, the responsibility of neighboring countries, the properties of power sharing schemes and legal reforms, and many other qualities of localized post-conflict peace operations.

# Program Overview

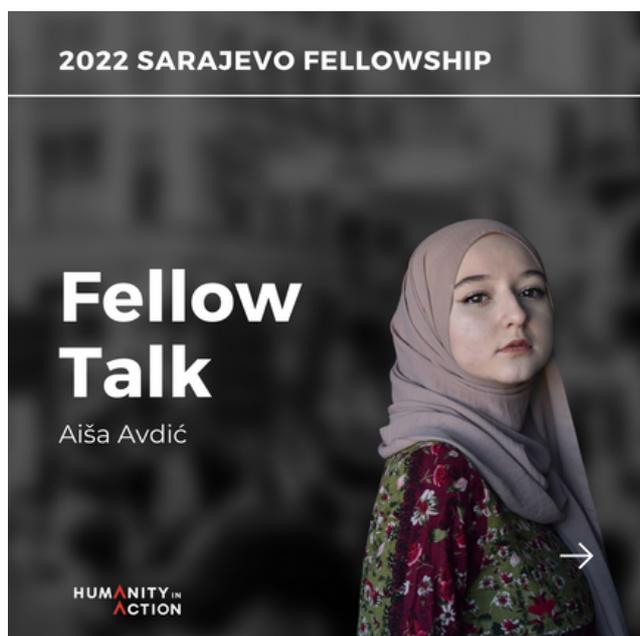
Below is an overview of the important dates for the 2022 Virtual Fellowship



# DAY 1

Monday  
June 13

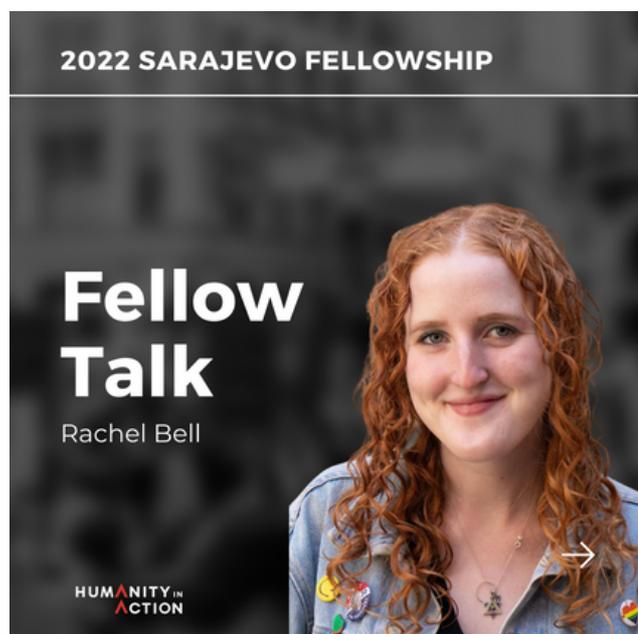
## Fellow Talk #1 Aiša Avdić



Aiša Avdić shared with us two stories about her life: her struggle with dyslexia and about how she met her best friend of seven years. We were invited to do a quiz on how home architectural styles fit our personalities, which was followed by a lively discussion.

## Fellow Talk #2 Rachel Bell

Rachel Bell decided to share herself through poetry and read a poem about New York, a city that she loves and currently resides in, which also happens to be the best city to cry in. She also told in verse how she feels about being jewish, trauma, being queer, and falling in love.



# DAY 1

Monday  
June 13



**Keynote Speech:  
“What is Russia  
Telling Us with the  
Dead Bodies in  
Bucha?”**  
*Konstanty Gebert,  
Journalist,  
war correspondent,  
writer*

Just before the Russian aggression took place, journalist, writer and war correspondent Konstanty Gebert published a groundbreaking book on researching genocide over 150 years. He delivered a lecture on how we should look at the war crimes going on in the context of the war in Ukraine and what is Russia telling us with the dead bodies in Bucha. Apart from genocidal intent and genocidal language that have been discussed, it was argued why only genocide has the capacity to stir us to action and to generate interest. Another keyword was *action* that we are desperately in need of, agreement on what is supposed to be done in order not to reduce our moral discomfort, but to reduce the horror and give assistance to the victims, and make us prepared for next time, ‘cause there is always next time’, as we are told by Gebert.

# DAY 1

Monday  
June 13

**Dealing with the Legacies of the Past Atrocities in BiH: An Overview**  
*Marko Hoare, PhD, Sarajevo School of Science and Technology*

## 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP



Marko Attila Hoare is an Associate Professor and Head of Research for the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Sarajevo School of Science and Technology. His research focuses on themes related to nationalism, genocide, fascism and anti-fascism, and state-building. He is the author of four books: *The Bosnian Muslims in the Second World War: A History* (Hurst and Oxford University Press, London and New York, 2013); *The History of Bosnia: From the Middle Ages to the Present Day* (Saqi, London, 2007); *Genocide and Resistance in Hitler's Bosnia: The Partisans and the Chetniks, 1941-1943* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2006), which won the British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow Monograph Competition in 2004; and *How Bosnia Armed* (Saqi, London, 2004). He is currently leading the Bosnian Genocide research project at the SSST and is also working on a history of modern Serbia.

HUMANITY IN ACTION

Professor Marko Hoare from Sarajevo School of Science and Technology shared his thoughts on dealing with the legacies of the past atrocities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. During the lecture, our fellows had the opportunity to hear more about Medieval, Ottoman, Yugoslav and contemporary history of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as some regional conflicts, and the Western responsibility and complicity during the wartime. Special attention has been paid to the ethno-religious divide, genocidal projects, Bosnian identity and statehood, and why the nation matters. Additionally, professor Hoare went into detail on genocidal tools, means and goals; why the Dayton agreement could not help with establishing stable political structures. as well as reintegration and renewed disintegration, weakening of OHR and reduction of peacekeepers.

# DAY 2

Tuesday  
June 14

## 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

Jessie Barton Hronešová is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Global Fellow at UNC-Chapel Hill and Ca' Foscari University in Venice where she studies victimhood politics in post-communist Europe. Previously, she held a postdoctoral fellowship at the Oxford Department of International Development. Her main interests lie in memory, identity politics and transitional justice in Central Europe and the Western Balkans. She authored and edited several studies on identity (e.g. *Post-War Ethno-National Identities of Young People in Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Peter Lang: 2012) and transitional justice (*The Struggle of Redress: Victim Capital in Bosnia and Herzegovina*, Palgrave: 2020). She also worked for the Czech Academy of Sciences, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the OSCE in Sarajevo. She holds a PhD in politics from the University of Oxford and graduate degree from Oxford and the London School of Economics.

HUMANITY IN ACTION

### **Graves and Redress: Veterans and Families of the Missing Persons in BiH**

*Jessie Barton Hronešová, PhD, Marie Curie Fellow, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*

Jessie Barton Hronešová from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill described some of the main problems in postwar Bosnia regarding the issue of veterans and missing persons. It was discussed what are the roles and demands of victims and veterans as important postwar social-status seeking groups, and we came across a more controversial question - how could war victims obstruct peace. We had the opportunity to hear some thoughts on memory and recognition, victimhood identity and victimhood politics as well as politicization of transitional justice issues in BiH. After seeing some statistics on identification of 'nestali', missing people's families, Law on Missing People and PTSD, we tried to grasp some lessons that could be learned from the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

# DAY 2

Tuesday  
June 14

## **Introduction to the BiH Political System: The Challenges of Consociational Democracy**

*Midhat Izmirlija,  
PhD, University of  
Sarajevo*

### 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP



Midhat Izmirlija is Associate Professor at the Law School of the University of Sarajevo where he teaches human rights and theory of law and state. He holds master degree in law from the University of Sarajevo Law School and master degree in human rights and democracy from the University of Sarajevo Center for Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Studies. He holds PhD degree from the University of Sarajevo. His research focuses on human rights, antidiscrimination law, theory of state, theory of law and transitional justice. He served as legal expert in projects concerning implementation of antidiscrimination law, gender equality law and improvement of the system of human rights protection in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

HUMANITY IN  
ACTION

While trying to introduce our fellows to the Bosnian political system, Dr. Midhat Izmirlija from University of Sarajevo explained what makes this system of power sharing so complex and if it is possible to establish democracy in a multi-ethnic, multi-religious, multilingual society, and do we really have a different culture with different values. The debate involved the conditions that have to be met in order to establish a democracy, how to include different constituent groups that are making this society, enabling a fair representation in the government and involvement in power-sharing, as well as how to adopt decisions without causing system paralysis and status quo, while assuring meritocracy, and establishing the rule of law and an impartial and neutral system that citizens could trust.

# DAY 2

Tuesday  
June 14

## 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

Nedim Kulenović is a Bosnian human rights lawyer with over a decade of professional experience in the protection and promotion of human rights. He worked at a leading national legal aid provider, "Vaša prava BiH", where he focused on international protection (asylum), detention (including on national security grounds), and in the anti-discrimination team which specialized in strategic litigation. Subsequently he worked at the Registry of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg where he examined applications received from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Serbia, and drafted decisions and judgments in those cases. Since December 2020 he is working at the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in its Human Rights Section. There he monitors systematic human rights concerns, especially in the areas of economic and social rights, equality and non-discrimination, freedom of religion or belief, minority rights, returns, human trafficking, as well as bias related incidents. He holds a doctorate in comparative constitutional law and constitutional theory.

HUMANITY IN ACTION

**Human Rights in Post-Conflict BiH: Verdicts, Reforms, and Challenges**  
Nedim Kulenović,  
PhD, University of Sarajevo

Dr. Nedim Kulenović from University of Sarajevo focused his lecture on the disconnect between reality and black letter law, and the discrepancy between promises and deliverance of sham, weak, strong and modest constitutions. Our fellows were introduced to some case studies that paint a picture of human rights and judiciary challenges in Bosnia and Herzegovina and perceptions regarding discrimination and structural problems that still exist, and got reminded of concepts such as democratic pluralism, nationalism, and militant democracy. Much has been said about constitutions with a strong or weak foundation in human rights protection, as well as institutional bodies that deal with human rights and democracy issues, including international human rights standards, instruments, legal framework and enforcement of judgements.

# DAY 3

Wednesday  
June 15

## **Minorities Through the Prism of Transitional Justice**

*Maja Savić-Bojanić,  
PhD, Sarajevo  
School  
of Science and  
Technology*



'Dayton constitution overemphasizes ethnicity and does not deal with the term citizen,' reminds us dr. Maja Savić-Bojanić from Sarajevo School of Science and Technology. She explained what are the implications of this constitution for national minorities (non-constituent people or 'the others') in the multiethnic state of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which was known for being called 'Yugoslavia in miniature' due to its demographic structure. In this lecture, Dr. Savić-Bojanić shows how ethnic nationalism and no civic understanding of our national belonging poses a risk for minorities who are being unrepresented, discriminated and excluded from the political system, and calls for a move from a discourse of protection to that of empowerment of minorities.

# DAY 3

Wednesday  
June 15



**Establishing a  
Secular State in a  
Multiconfessional  
Society**  
*Dino Abazović, PhD,  
University of  
Sarajevo*

Our fellows had the opportunity to hear from dr. Dino Abazović, University of Sarajevo, a sociological perspective on the role of religion in contemporary societies, religion amounting to political commitment and how it often functions as a quasi-ethnic secular identity which narrows the understanding of religion as such. We were introduced to models of accommodating relations between state and religion, the distinction between secular, secularization and secularism and the differentiation of religion from institutions such as the economy, the state, education and the family. The largest part of today's debate revolved around political instrumentalization of religion and religious instrumentalization of politics, the revitalization of religion during the period of ethnic renewals, and overall confusion about religious and ethnic identity which needs to be cleared out in order to demarcate ethnic from religious conflict.

# DAY 3

Wednesday  
June 15

## Fellow talk #3 *Milena Beretsko*



In our third fellow talk, Milena Berestko chose to talk about water by starting with a poem on the ocean. Water as a source of death and pain, darkness underneath the water, the trans-Atlantic slave trade and destroyed possessions; and water as a space that cultivates life and calms her down, which reminds her on Bangladesh's floating gardens and bodies of water in New York, Chicago and Honduras she enjoyed visiting. Milena invited us to think about spaces more, to remember what places summon us back to ourselves and visualize them in our mind, to see what qualities they evoke and how we can implement those qualities without being physically present in those places.

# DAY 4

Thursday  
June 16



**The Process of Reconciliation among Youth in Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
*Sabina Čehajić - Clancy, PhD, Stockholm University*

Social psychologist Sabina Čehajić-Clancy from Stockholm University spoke about research areas and questions that social psychologists ask in their work. This lesson revolved around social identity threats and how people deal with moral violations done by their groups, group-based emotions (such as guilt, shame and empathy) and regulation of those group emotions. Other parts of the lecture included social-psychological interventions aimed at reconciliation, challenging moral disengagement strategies and unsound beliefs, decreasing resistance or lack of motivation to engage, which would ideally minimize social distance and lead to acceptance of truth and responsibility. Finally, it was debated if contact interventions actually work and what are the possibilities of enabling long-term changes.

# DAY 4

Thursday  
June 16

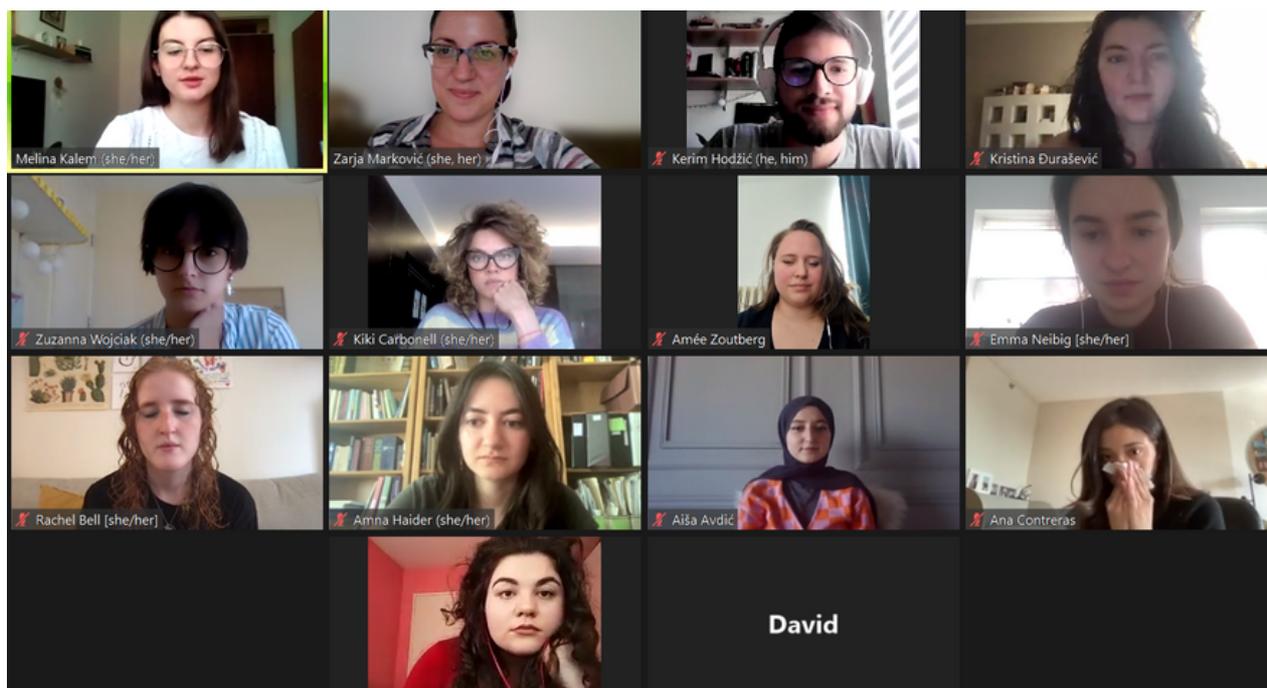
**Salience of  
Ethnicity in Post-  
Conflict BiH**  
*Adis Maksić, PhD,  
International Burch  
University*



In order to understand the salience of ethnicity and the process of ethno-politicization, Adis Maksić from International Burch University talked about the myth of genetic differences that leads to ethnic hatred and ethnically divided places. Homogenizing people around their ethnicity, sharpening perceptions about differences, and pushing forward the idea that only birds of a feather flock together is entirely incompatible with the idea of brotherhood and unity that was a guiding principle of Yugoslav people, later abandoned by nationalist parties. Professor Maksić argued that these emotions of ethnic belonging were not felt any more intensely than emotions felt for unity.

# DAY 4

Thursday  
June 16



## Video presentations

We had the pleasure to watch video presentations and photomontages of our fellows Rachel Bell, Milena Berestko, David Blagojević, Kiki Carbonell and Aleksandra Đukić about places they reside in. Some have chosen to focus on events that they find meaningful, such as concerts, protests, national or religious holidays or simply watching snow outside the window. Others have focused on showing how they think about their surroundings and contrasting places in their cities, especially those who live in a mishmash of cultures or melting pots. Apart from showing how they go on about their daily life in their cities, some decided it is not enough to present only the good, but the bad and the ugly too.

# DAY 4

Thursday  
June 16



## **Fellow Talk #4** *David Blagojević*

In our fourth fellow talk, Fellow David Blagojević talked about his efforts in organizing a graffiti jam in Banja Luka. After the first Covid lockdown he wanted to do something fun in a place where people can gather, so he decided to use the playground for children that the city wanted to transform into a parking lot. After many challenges surrounding the playground in question, the fight for the space was finally won and organized a graffiti jam with the help from artists from five different Bosnian cities.

# DAY 5

Friday  
June 17

## 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

Armela Ramić is an Attorney-at-Law and she holds a LLM degree from the Department for Civil Law at the Faculty of Law University of Sarajevo. Her academic and professional background is mostly related to Civil and Criminal Law. Previously she worked in a local law office in Sarajevo on war crimes cases and as a legal adviser for Tack Impunity Always (TRIAL) in BiH. Besides her aforementioned professional engagement, she is also working as a project manager of Association "ARBITRI".



### **Seeking Justice for Women Victims of War**

*Armela Ramić,  
Attorney-at-Law*

Armela Ramić, attorney-at-law from Sarajevo, talked about seeking justice for survivors of sexual violence in the war, which engaged our fellows in a discussion on how they would deal with this issue and what type of justice they would advocate for. The debate revolved around legal struggle of women, stigmatization and shame thrown at the woman and not the perpetrators, lack of financial assets and lack of psychological help, which left us thinking about the question - what do victims of sexual violence get and what would be fair for these women?

# DAY 5

Friday  
June 17

**Women, Gender Equality, and Reconciliation Initiatives in Post-war Bosnia and Herzegovina**  
*Masha Durkalić, UN Women BiH*

## 2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

Masha Durkalic is a feminist activist and one of the authors of the book #WomenOfBiH. She has a BA in Journalism, and an MA in Democracy and Human Rights. She is a fellow of the UN University Gender Equality and Training (UNU-GEST) programme of the University of Iceland. She works in communications and public relations for UN Women BiH. She lives and works in Sarajevo.

HUMANITY IN ACTION

None of the countries in the world have really achieved full gender equality, says Masha Durkalić from UN Women BiH, while showing us some statistics on how things are going for women. Observing gender (in)equality included three areas: violence against women, political participation and women's economic empowerment, which still seem to be troublesome areas. However, there are good things worth mentioning regarding feminist activism in this region that came after the war, mostly encouraged by feminist NGO's which transformed into women's movements, and this has mainly to do with strong women's civil society sectors, appropriate legislative framework and tradition of emancipation.

# DAY 5

Friday  
June 17

## Fellow Talk #5 *Kiki Carbonell*



For our fifth fellow talk, Kiki Carbonell shared several personal stories, including her experience of growing up in a mixed family which she loved because she was always surrounded by diverse people, about going back and forth to recognize to recognize that she was white, on her love for dressing up and wearing costumes on birthday parties, and some other birthday traditions. She also drew attention to the inspiring story of Facunda Calanches she loves telling people about, who was an enslaved woman able to litigate her own freedom and use the law to turn system on its head. With all of these stories Kiki wanted to remind us that change is the only constant.

*My understanding of the history and events in BiH has been made more complex and richer, and my empathy deeper, thanks for the intellectual and emotional work of the speakers. Additionally, coming to understand the systems that engendered genocide and brokered a tenuous, divided peace, I have a better structural understanding of a singular yet illustrative example of how power and inequalities fester in a society. In closing, I have been returning to the work of Michel Rolph Trouillot. "He writes History is the fruit of power, but power itself is never so transparent that its analysis becomes superfluous. The ultimate mark of power may be its invisibility; the ultimate challenge, the exposition of its roots." To seeing power and weeding out its roots.*

**Olivia Storz**

2022 Sarajevo Fellowship

*A big thread that weaved through lectures was Gen Z's dedication to social justice. I find it both upsetting and audacious because the speakers highlighted that our generation needs to be the one who restores peace and summons justice-oriented healing, which places the burden of healing the world, the one we did not destroy, on us, solely. I have learned so much from my fellow scholars, especially their questions and comments. Fellow talks also introduced new perspectives and dilemmas each of us is facing in our justice work.*

**Milena Beretsko**

2022 Sarajevo Fellowship

# DAY 6

Monday  
June 20



**Bosnia and Herzegovina - A Politically 'Captured Country' Phenomenon'.**  
*Ivana Korajlić,  
Executive Director  
Transparency  
International*

Ivana Korajlić, the executive director of Transparency International BiH, engaged our fellows in a discussion about state capture and increasing and monitoring transparency of the public sector. BiH is one of the most representative examples of the state capture, where private interests of those who have political and financial power are protected and have priority over citizens interests, and everything is controlled including legislation and implementation of the legislation. We learned how the institution building process enabled these groups to establish themselves by using gaps in the system to capture processes and institutions, which resulted in having three cartels of elites in Bosnia.

# DAY 6

Monday  
June 20

**Peacebuilding  
and Local  
Ownership:  
Postconflict  
Consensus-  
building in BiH**  
*Tanya Domi,  
University of  
Colombia*



“Learning the truth is a win”, says Tanya Domi from University of Colombia, who talked about her experience in the area of peacebuilding in BiH. The truth has been under attack for many years in Bosnia and contemporary history has not been written nor can it be with contested facts regarding the war. However, there has been enough time and sufficient scholarship so people can at least be informed about the lessons from the past. It was discussed why peacebuilding efforts must be locally led and why including only external actors is not sustainable, as well as why peacebuilding programs require multiple years of funding, and what lessons could be taken from similar cases.

# DAY 6

Monday  
June 20

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## **Fellow Talk #6** Ana Contreras

Our fellow Ana Contreras from Mexico spoke about the colonial power matrix, racial and class privilege, colorism, beauty standards and culture in westernized Mexico and her personal concerns with these issues. Learning about intersectionality inspired Ana's journey towards politics and she became an activist for various causes. Apart from that, we had the opportunity to find out about some of her hidden talents (drawing, sculpting, graphic design) as she presented some of her work to other fellows.

# DAY 7

Tuesday  
June 21

## **A Review of BiH's Relations with the Major Powers and PIC Countries**

*Nedžma  
Džananović,  
Faculty of Political  
Sciences*



Since BiH has an incredibly big visibility in the international community for a country of its size and is very much present in the international affairs as an actor and contributor to these discussions, our fellows were interested to know about BiH's relations with the major powers, if international interference means more good or harm, and how much power do Bosnia's neighbors and major powers hold over Bosnia's internal affairs. Professor Nedžma Džananović from Faculty of Political Sciences was answering the questions on these topics, and shared some thoughts on peacemaking efforts and negotiations, different interpretations of interventions, UN's mechanisms and implementation of their own solutions, resolve of the international community, and why certain kind of interference is normal for BiH. We also talked about BiH's internal political power and sovereignty and if there is such a thing as national interests, given the fragmentation in BiH's politics.

# DAY 7

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Tuesday  
June 21

## Movie Screening and Discussion

### *Ordinary Heroes*

We watched one of the movies from a series of documentaries 'Ordinary Heroes' about Bosnian people who decided to leave the war trauma behind them and share their experience on relationships with members of other ethnic groups while spreading more positive ideas on the true nature of ordinary people. It can be said this session was almost cathartic as it inspired a lot of emotional responses from our fellows who were moved by the humanity shown by the people in the movie.

# DAY 7

Tuesday  
June 21

## **Fellow Talk #7** *Surayya Walters*



Surayya Walters took us on a ride through the ABC's of American popular culture to explain how it inspired her and shaped who she is. The presentation started with a brief history of her descent from Ghana to Jamaica and cultural influences she finds interesting. Needless to say we enjoyed listening about what characterized every decade of the previous century, most specifically about the fun parts - fashion, food, music, as we discussed curry goat, The Cotton Club, Diana Ross, 60's diners, West Side Story, soul food, iPods and the rise of hip hop. We also touched upon the perks of living in our age of environmentalist movements, body positivity and inclusive marketing, alternative diets and overall - alternative lifestyles.

# DAY 8

Wednesday  
June 22



## **Foreign Economic Policy and Trade Relations of BiH since Independence**

*Samira  
Sulejmanović,  
Ministry of Foreign  
Trade and Economic  
Relations*

A very dynamic and interactive lecture on economy and international economic flows in Bosnia and Herzegovina was held by Mrs Samira Sulejmanović. Mrs Sulejmanović started the session by explaining the basics of the economic system in BiH, new economic trends and the monetary system of BiH, as well as several other issues such as unemployment (especially among youth), inflation, taxes and potential economic reforms in the country. She also shared her vast experience concerning these matters and she encouraged fellows to discuss the elements and goals of the foreign trade in Bosnia and Herzegovina that they consider to be most important. She also talked about the network of the international agreements concerning the foreign trade and has answered many questions on import and export from Bosnia and Herzegovina.

# DAY 8

Wednesday  
June 22

## **The Media and Power-Sharing: Understanding the Role of Media and Media Policies in Post-Conflict BiH**

*Leila Bičakčić,  
Center for  
Investigative  
Reporting*



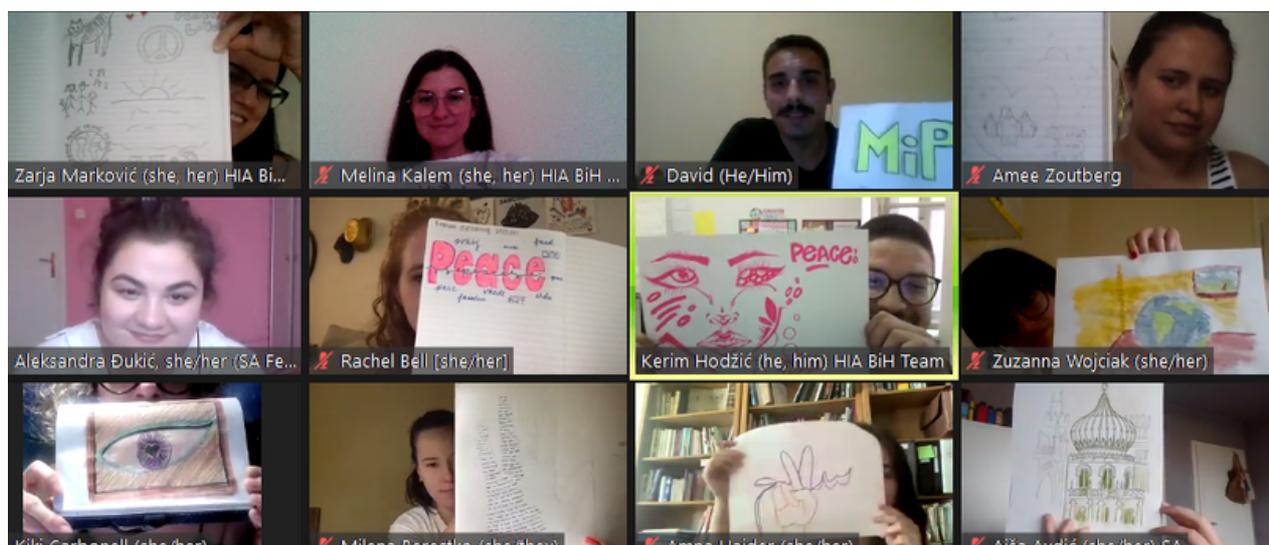
Lejla Bicakčić spoke to our Fellows about her work within the Center for Investigative Journalism. After having an overview of where Bosnia and Herzegovina stands today, the cohort had a chance to discuss hot topics such as corruption, political elites, EU integrations, and lack of political will. A particular emphasis has been given to the foreign influence and relations with countries with an active presence in the region. The fellows were very interested about all the topics and asked questions about the challenges that the journalism had encountered while investigating provocative political topics. Ms Bičakčić reiterated how the Balkan countries including BiH needs to democratize their parties first in order to achieve democratic order, “Societies are the reflection of their political parties”.

# DAY 8

Wednesday  
June 22



We had the opportunity to let our artistic souls flow during the drawing session our senior fellow, Kerim Hodžić, prepared for us. The topic revolved around 'peace' i.e. specific ways the fellows understand the concept and what it means for them. Afterward, the fellows got the opportunity to showcase their work and explain the rationale behind them.



# DAY 8

Wednesday  
June 22

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## **Fellow Talk #8** *Amee Zoutberg*

As the icing on the cake, for her fellow talk, Amee Zoutberg revealed her soul to us by talking about the pieces of her world that came together in a kaleidoscope of memories. We indulged into poetry, discussed articles Amee has written for several news portals, and reflected upon the socio-political milieu of Belgium.

# DAY 9

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Thursday  
June 23

## Movie Screening and Discussion

### *Ordinary Heroes*

Another movie screening from a series of documentaries 'Ordinary Heroes' made by the Post Conflict Research Center prompted a debate on minorities, as we saw a member of a minority group save a member of a majority group in BiH. This particular episode caused a lot of confusion for our fellows since they found it rather unusual how the concept of minority is used in different contexts, and they wanted to understand what it means to be classified as a minority and actually be one in terms of demographic statistics. The discussion revolved around highlighting minority groups, and to some it was surprising how some people do not want to be recognized as a minority, but primarily as national citizens.

# DAY 9

Thursday  
June 23



## **Establishing a Culture of Peace: A Multiple Approach to Remembrance and Transitional Justice**

*Velma Šarić, Post-Conflict Research Center*

Velma Šarić from the Post-Conflict Research Center shared with us personal stories that led to establishing the PCRC, main challenges they have as peace educators and how their organization managed to succeed and last against all odds. Today we heard stories about the power of art and culture, a beautiful side of war no one is documenting, and this positive outlook seems to be much appreciated by our fellows. Apart from sharing personal stories, we heard about moral courage of people who were afraid or embarrassed to talk about their brave acts out of fear they are going to be judged by their own group for helping ‘the others’, and how it is important to share stories from places such as Rwanda, Cambodia, Sudan, Congo, so they can give larger perspective to different groups in order to understand that similar horrific things also happen to other people.

# DAY 9

Thursday  
June 23



**Fellow Talk #9**  
*Amna Haider*

Amna Haider involved us in a debate on why so many women are targeted, killed and victimized because of their sexual preferences. We learned something about navigation of sexualized cultural practices, reinforcing women's sexual socialization, their decision to pursue (or not) some sexual interests, which was followed by a hijab debate, the male gaze, and what Charles Taylor says about the social imaginary. Examples of cultural conundrums lead us to think about all the ways we are bargaining with patriarchy.

# DAY 10

Friday  
June 24



**Post-Conflict  
Narratives:  
Truth and  
Remembrance**  
*Dina Greenberg,  
Writer and  
Author*

Writer and author Dina Greenberg talked about intergenerational trauma that trickles down from one generation to the next, institutionalized denial, understanding the importance of having someone listen to you, and providing a safe space for this kind of discussion. Our fellows who have read a chapter from her book 'Nermina's chance' engaged in a discussion on common experiences, and shared their personal family stories as we continued talking about the collective consciousness of trauma, empathy, and the process of writing which is therapeutic in itself.

# DAY 10

Friday  
June 24

## **Fighting for the Rights of "Invisible" Groups in BiH Society**

*Ajna Jusić, Founder and CEO 'Forgotten Children of War'*

2022 SARAJEVO FELLOWSHIP

## **Fighting for the Rights of "Invisible" Groups in BiH Society**

Ajna Jusić, Founder and CEO  
'Forgotten Children of War'

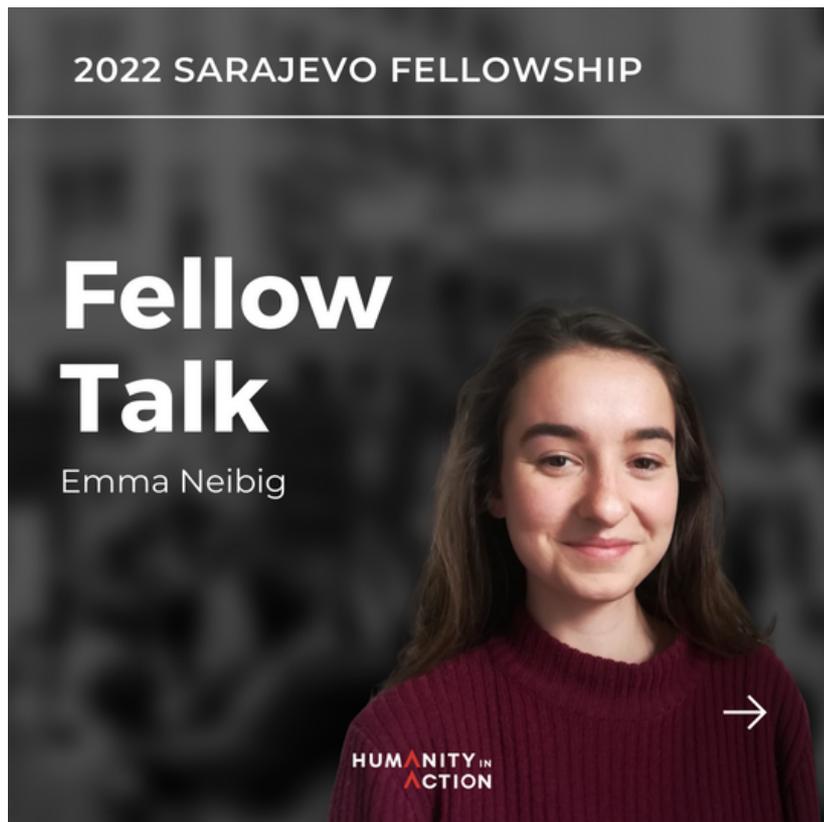
HUMANITY IN ACTION



Unyielding patriarchal oppression that helps generating myths surrounding rape and leads to victim-blaming, makes the struggle for a rightful and dignified life even harder for survivors of rape. Ajna Jusić, founder and CEO of 'Forgotten Children of War', shared her thoughts on equal rights for survivors of rape, approaching the justice system, why human rights sometimes seem like an illusion, being targeted as fatherless and more on some of the common consequences of forced marriage and forced motherhood. "Lost childhood becomes uncertain adulthood", confesses Ajna, as we continue the debate on transgenerational trauma, neglect, stigmatization, discrimination, and the need to create a culture where we can support victims to ease their suffering.

# DAY 10

Friday  
June 24



**Fellow Talk #10**  
*Emma Neibig*

Despite thinking we would be way too kind to give her any kind of constructive criticism, we were sincerely moved by Emma Neibig's Fellow talk. Starting with a brief presentation on beauty and history of the Caucasus area where she resided, Emma later shared some of her personal experiences in the form of prose memoirs. Her stories included reflections on diversity of people she was surrounded with, to whom she refers as 'a colourful mosaic of broken pieces thrown together to create a beautiful mural', her visits to what other would think of as places of violence, friendships she made on the way and meaningful conversations she had with them.

*The fellowship challenged me to consider the historical context of BiH and how it intersects with issues of democracy, diversity, multiculturalism, and identity. A pleasant surprise about the fellowship is how eager I've become to learn from the others in the cohort. I always look forward to the fellow talks after each session and the time to consider how everyone's backgrounds are different. As an American, there were times when I felt insecure or unable to truly talk about and contribute to certain topics. When we are learning about BiH, there are some things that I never could imagine would happen here in the US. However, the HIA fellowship has truly challenged me to connect Bosnia's history to my own. I learned to contribute to discussions in depth when I asked myself how the particular human rights issue being discussed would affect me. When I began circling issues back to myself and my own identity, I found perspective to add to the discussion and enrich the experience of my peers. The fellowship is opening my eyes to the fact that each culture and region has its own set of political and social issues. There is room for a change on an international and national level. This motivates me to step up and lead.*

**SURAYYA WALTERS**

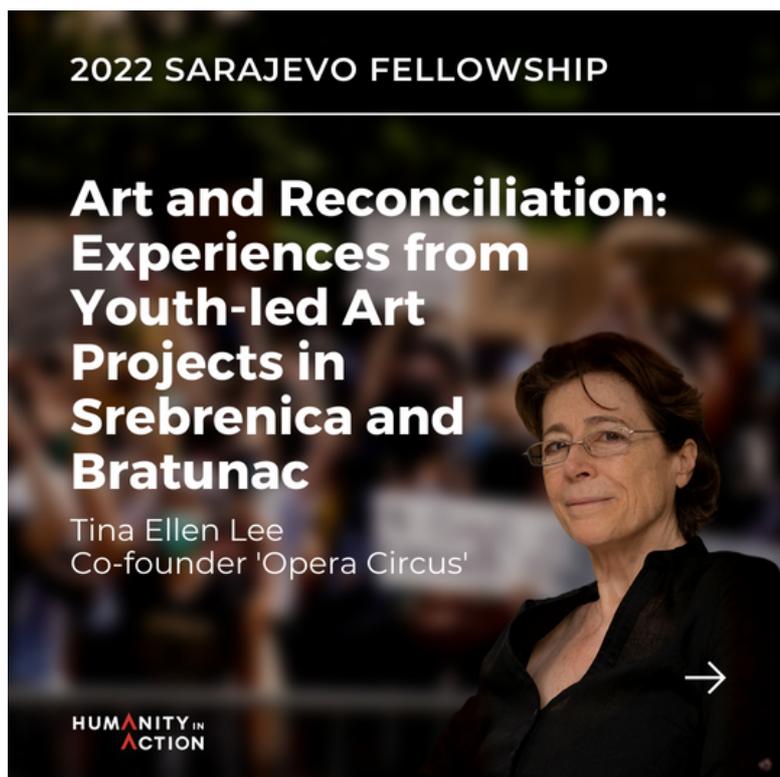
2022 Sarajevo Fellowship

# DAY 11

Monday  
June 27

## **Art and Reconciliation, Experiences from Youth-led Art Projects in Srebrenica and Bratunac**

*Tina Ellen Lee, Co-founder 'Opera Circus'*



During the session led by Tina Ellen Lee, we watched the film 'Candles Against the Night' about young hopes of Srebrenica who set up a music theater in order to try to create a happier community and get over the past by engaging in creative activities with people from different ethnic groups. We also discussed another film - 'Wild horses' about a woman coping with the absence of her daughter and granddaughter who left Bosnia to find a better life. Ms. Lee, who was an opera singer and is the co-founder 'of Opera Circus', discussed the role of art in reconciliation, shared her experience from Srebrenica, some heartwarming stories of people involved in the project, on creating relationships, environment and confidence for young people to talk, develop and understand the bigger world, all while not imposing the process upon them but establishing a cooperative working environment.

# DAY 11

Monday  
June 27



**Perspectives on  
Segregated  
Education in BiH**  
*Ivana Kešić, CIVITAS*

Ivana Kešić from CIVITAS sparked a huge debate among our fellows who were interested in hearing about some specifics on segregated education in BiH which is taught in different languages, has different content and different learning outcomes, and where every group tries to tell their own version of history. It is hard to educate for human rights, democracy and citizenship when education leads to more ethnic divisions and when peace, love and understanding are not a part of the curriculum. Even though we live in a globalized world where people should be able to preserve their identity and be taught to cooperate without feeling threatened, it seems that the students are the only ones interested in having inclusive classrooms.

# DAY 11

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Monday  
June 27

**Fellow Talk #11**  
*Olivia Storz*



For her Fellow talk, Olivia Storz has chosen the topic of hope as politics, an idea which started in post-enlightenment and an idea that makes her get up in the morning. Following on philosophical ideals, Olivia talked about specific ontological training, the concept of critical hope, operationalizing hope, cynicism, ambiguity, utopias, making sense of the world and why hope is essential. In the end, Olivia invited us to answer a question she asks herself at the end of each day - what are we grateful for today.

# DAY 12

Tuesday  
June 28



**Localized External  
Building in BIH**  
*Nick Micinski  
University of Maine*

Nick Micinski from the University of Maine led a discussion on civil society, and was interested to know what do we mean by it, what do we think about the roles of civil society actors and how would diaspora participate; which then led to the topics of symbolic politics, the dynamics between the local and international, the role of NGOs and influence of donors and funding. Our fellows who shared their experience in working with different civil society organizations, were mostly interested in the problematics of differentiating what is political and what is not, and issues such as leverage, recognition, expertise, leadership, accountability, the issue of representation, creating narratives, power imbalance and how money impacts activism that we do.

# DAY 12

Tuesday  
June 28

## **Youth Identities in Post-Conflict Societies**

*Samir Beharić, HiA Senior Fellow*



HiA Senior Fellow and an award winning activist, Samir Beharić inspired us to think about different approaches when it comes to activism, on getting approval from different audiences, and the importance of how the activists are being perceived in the public eye. The lecture was accompanied by examples on activism regarding BiH school integration and student uprising, fighting devastation of natural habitat done for profit, help of media and necessity of media literacy, as well as what kind of values we need to instill in future generations.

# DAY 12

Tuesday  
June 28



**Structure,  
Frameworks,  
Processes,  
Institutions, and  
Actors of BiH  
Diplomacy since  
Independence**  
*Anesa Kundurović,  
Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs*

Anesa Kundurović from Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave a lecture on post-conflict diplomacy, its changes and reactions to global challenges, how the role of a diplomat changes in times of conflict or stability, types of efforts to establish order and stability, and how does the multilevel decision-making structure in BiH affect foreign policy and affairs. We also discussed diplomatic strategies for overcoming past legacies and struggling with the society that has to go through the process of reconciliation, dealing with limited patience, the growing role of diaspora, while also touching upon the matter of determination to pursue the EU accession process.

# DAY 13

Wednesday  
June 29

## Fellow Talk #12

*Zuzanna Wojciak*

Zuzanna Wojciak gave a talk on language and how it impacts reality and tried to explain how reality also impacts language. We started talking about dialects, compromising on a certain standard of language, her experience with having no regional identity, and continued the debate on homophobic speech, LGBT portrayed as an invasion of traditional values, while also highlighting some of the recent positive developments in Poland.



## Fellow Talk #13

*Aleksandra Đukić*



Aleksandra Đukić explained what citizen journalism is, why citizen participation in the media is important and how it can work together with professional journalism. We heard about some famous examples such as Arab spring protests when professional media failed to provide a truthful image of the events, as well as some examples of citizen journalism in BiH, like affair Pazarić, protests from Tuzla, 'Nisam tražila', revenge pornography, etc. Since citizen journalism can involve anyone with a mobile phone, there are also risks that follow it, which is why we tackled the issue of ethics, bias and objectivity.

# DAY 13

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Wednesday  
June 29

## Action Projects Presentations

Hana Hodžić, 2021 Amsterdam Fellowship  
Melina Kalem, 2021 Sarajevo Fellowship  
Kerim Hodžić, 2020 John Lewis Fellowship



Three of our senior fellows Melina Kalem, Hana Hodžić and Kerim Hodžić presented their action projects to our new generation of fellows. We had the opportunity to hear about Melina's project '365 for human rights' #365zaljudskaprava and the importance of educational components in activism and spreading the word to the wider community. Hana introduced us to her project 'Peer to peer violence through time' and research she has done with children in Sarajevo and Bihać, as well as the original time capsule idea. Kerim in his project named 'The paths of the future - mask out' wanted to shed some light on racism in BiH, a topic which is often neglected since it is usually talked about issues of constituent people and minorities in general. We heard their takeaways from those experiences, got some tips for successful projects, thoughts on improvising, and how they managed to find funding for the projects.

# DAY 13

Wednesday  
June 29

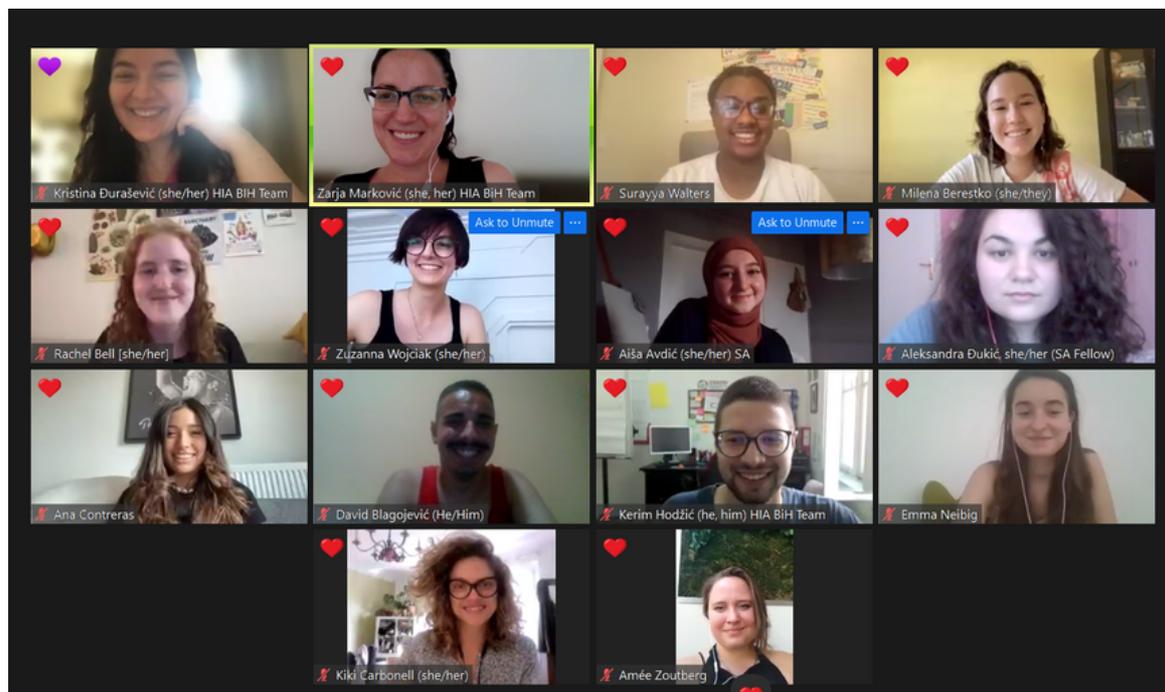
**Action Project  
Intro:  
Crowdsourcing  
communication**  
*Dajana Džindo,  
Board Member HiA  
BiH*



For our last lecture, Dajana Džindo, a board member of HiA BiH, spoke on implementing action projects, crowdsourcing and crowdfunding. She told us how her international experience inspired her to think about ideas she otherwise wouldn't discuss in her country, as she went on explaining how she found solutions for some of the projects she was involved with. Much has been said about connecting with people you wouldn't otherwise know, on crowdfunding models - rewards, donations, loans and equity, encouraging democratic values and active citizenship, and the importance of women's economic independence and growth of their projects and businesses.

# DAY 14

Thursday  
June 30



## Reflection on Sarajevo Fellowship Final Goodbyes and See you Soon

We closed this year's intense summer fellowship with personal reflections of our fellows and staff, and after giving constructive feedback on the programme and group development, we discussed future plans and best takeouts from this experience. It appears that our fellows particularly enjoyed interactive lessons and did not seem to be bothered by this year's online format of teaching, since they felt fairly connected to each other and managed to create an interesting dynamic. We were glad that they were interested to hear about the perspectives of other students and that they felt humbled by their deep thoughts and insightful comments. It made us particularly content to hear they enjoyed this experience more than they expected to, even though it was emotionally overwhelming at times. Hoping that they will support each other in the future and that they are leaving this fellowship with some long-lasting connections, we want to thank our most poetic group so far for taking their time to share their experience with HIA BIH team.

## Layers to the experience of war

*Kiki Carbonell*

2022 Sarajevo Fellowship

The wars that happen in our lands, are also happening in our bodies at the same time

They start with a spark and leave in their wake so many crises

They leave scars in the nature that shelters and nourishes us, in the views that welcomed us as we left our house, in the physical bodies of the people, in our minds, in us and in our neighbors... we know when we look each other in the eyes

The poisoning of the lands that feed us, the feelings that come creeping into the innermost frontiers of our own skin, the thoughts that cloud our vision and let our fears run wild

Experiences that happen with-in us and with-out us, in the present and in the future

Knowing we are no longer safe in our territories, our landscapes are forever modified

And then, as the layers reveal themselves, living all of this as "a woman" changes everything... Even our mere capacity to bear life to new generations becomes a threat for others

Our womanized bodies become more than just our bodies

And enemies believe they can dehumanize us further, so they decide to use their bodies to punish our loved ones through abusing, destroying and violating our bodies - exercising the patriarchal mandate to own and possess

And yet as another layer is revealed, the feminine power inspires and multiplies its efforts towards change - a change which can be exercised by all

It shows us that there is an undying will to do better, to unlearn, to relearn, to communicate, to grow together, to stand against external authorities and to embrace our inner compass

To use our resources to become again a community, to develop through the arts and the culture that some might have tried to take away from us

What will we choose?

This story is not yet written

It is a process and its outcome is still unknown

**Sarajevo Fellowship 2022**

# **FELLOW BLUEBOOK**



**RACHEL BELL**  
New York University

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Rachel is a justice-minded person, a writer, and believer in, and fighter for, a better world. She graduated from New York University with a degree in Sociology and Child and Adolescent Mental Health, with a focus on researching restorative justice. She believes in the healing power of storytelling and seeks to create a world where every person's story is uplifted and acknowledged. This belief has carried her in her work in Jewish community spaces through working on a podcast highlighting diverse Jewish stories, in interning with the Tribal Justice Exchange, and in working with people who are currently and formerly incarcerated, through art and ritual. Her own writing has been published in Hey Alma and Ayaskala Magazine and in the printed poetry and prayer collection, Mishkan Ga'avah. Rachel's identity as a queer Jewish person informs her desire to amplify marginalized stories.



**MILENA BERESTKO**  
Lafayette College

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Milena Kinga Berestko graduated from Lafayette College with a B.A. in Psychology and Theatre and a minor concentration in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies. Berestko strives toward social change and abolishing racial legacies through psychological research, art politics, writing, and direct action. Her organizing efforts at College led her to co-create the Dear Lafayette College Coalition, which advocates for equity for BIPOC communities in the Lehigh Valley, and UndocuFund, a scholarship for undocumented students and DACA recipients who cannot depend on federal aid. Berestko is currently working on a dystopian novel speculating on the societal impacts of mass-employing CRISPR-gene editing and a parental license law.



**CRISTINA MARGARITA CARBONELL  
BETANCOURT - KIKI**

Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen

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Cristina Margarita Carbonell Betancourt is an interdisciplinary researcher and activist with international working experience in the public, private and third sector. She holds degrees in Law, Public Management and State Sciences. Currently she's working on a doctoral dissertation at the intersection of the processes generated by climate destabilization and their implications for Venezuela's recovery after the Revolution. She further works with women and children survivors of domestic violence. The experiences gained across disciplines and regions continuously provide her with outstanding networking skills and an increasing sensitivity for cultural and gender issues. A resourceful and proactive nature makes her enjoy finding solutions to the problems she's presented with. Moreover, life's experiences have made her keen on learning about herself and the world around her. She's an earthling from Venezuela and thinks of herself as a cool nerd who's forever curious, and also as the founder of the imaginary city of Camburí.



**ALEKSANDRA DJUKIĆ - ALEKS**

University of Tuzla

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Aleksandra Đukić is a junior student of journalism from Bosnia and Herzegovina. She is very communicative and she loves to make new friends. As a future journalist, throughout her college she was very active in non-formal education and she enjoys learning new things. Her passion was to raise awareness about human and woman's right, domestic violence and also mental health. She wrote a couple of articles about these topics. Aleksandra's fields of interest also include gender-based violence. In her past, she has been part of a project at University of Tuzla for "16 days of activism against gender-based violence".



## MARY OLIVIA STORZ

London School of Economics

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Olivia Storz currently works at the Institute for Women's Policy Research. Interested in interrogating the social life of power, her research and advocacy center on how gender inequality shapes social, political, and economic opportunity. Olivia has more than five years of experience in frontline work and policy research related to gender-based violence, political representation, economic equality, and feminist advocacy. She served in the US Peace Corps in Peru and completed ethnographic research with feminist activists in Argentina. She has also worked in anti-violence advocacy and prevention. Olivia received her bachelor's degree in International Relations and Spanish from the University of Denver. She received the 2018 Pioneer Award for co-founding the nation's only "Survivor's Fund" to cover the direct costs of gender-based violence for students. She received her M.Sc. with Distinction from the Gender Institute at the London School of Economics. She loves pickled vegetables and the acknowledgments section of books.



## SURAYYA WALTERS

University of Pennsylvania

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Surayya Walters is a graduate of The University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School, where she studied Marketing and Management with a minor in Urban Education Policy & Research. During her time at Penn, she served as an opinion columnist for The Daily Pennsylvanian and co-chair of The Wharton, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Group. In these roles, she advocated tirelessly for greater awareness of diversity on Penn's campus. Her student leadership efforts led her to receive The Vice Dean's Award for Service to The Wharton School and The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service To The University of Pennsylvania. She has broad career interests, which include entrepreneurship, politics, marketing and media, and academia. Currently, she is working as a market research analyst. For her HIA action project, she hopes to launch a new organization that promotes economic equity in underserved (BIPOC) communities.

**ZUZANNA WOJCIAK ZUZA**

University of Essex

Zuzanna Wojciak is a final year law student at the University of Essex. She is passionate about human rights and plans to work in human rights advocacy in the future. Women's rights and LGBTQ+ rights are her main areas of interest. Her undergraduate dissertation assesses the effectiveness of protection of lesbian, gay and bisexual people in the European Union. Outside of class, Zuzanna volunteers as a Student Advisor in the Essex Law Clinic, where she provides free legal advice to members of the local community. She also helps coordinate the LGBTQ+ and HIV Project in the Clinic. Additionally, she is a member of the Digital Verification Unit run as a part of the Essex Human Rights Centre, where she researches alleged human rights violations using open-source techniques.

**AMÉE ZOUTBERG**

KU Leuven, University of Utrecht

With firm Dutch roots and a head in the sky, Amée Zoutberg believes that we make our own purpose in life. As a liberal arts scholar, Amée has taken the interdisciplinary approach to heart by specialising in development, investigative journalism and international politics. More specifically, some of her experiences include serving as a project officer in Burkina Faso, as a communications officer in the European Commission, and as a grassroots journalist focused on breaking our hegemonic and paternalistic view of the world. Her work has been featured in many leading newspapers including The Brussels Times, VICE USA, MO\*, HLN, AD and others. These efforts have been recognised by the British Council, the Google News Initiative and the EU. Currently, she is doubling down on positive humanitarian relations and global diplomacy. Most of all, Amée is looking forward to exploring new horizons, connecting internationally and realising true global impact through HIA.



## **DAVID BLAGOJEVIĆ**

University of Banja Luka

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David is from Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and is 19 years old. He is a student of Pedagogy. David has been involved in music for four years, that is, he is a DJ. He has been a member of the NGO sector for five years and during those five years in the NGO sector he has dealt with many things such as: mental health, narcotics, prevention of underage pregnancy, peace activities and much more. David is one of the organizers of the Graffiti Jam in Banja Luka, the first after 15 years. Through music and graffiti he tries to send a strong message to the community and to create one group of people who want change.



## **ANA PAULA CONTRERAS FRIAS**

Amsterdam University

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Ana Contreras is a student at the University of Amsterdam studying Political Science, majoring in Comparative Politics and minoring in Gender Studies. In addition to her academic commitments, she takes an active interest in extracurricular leadership initiatives related to climate change initiatives to support the transformation to a sustainable society and gender equality initiatives to promote an equal and intersectional social environment. Ana has worked as a volunteer with multiple NGOs and social movements in the past. In recent years Ana has worked as a Campaign Organiser for Greenpeace NL, as a member of the Women's March NL production team, and is currently an Activist Leader with Amnesty International and a member of the fundraising committee for Global Human Rights Defense. Ana hopes to work as a human rights advocate for international organisations one day. The objective of her career is not to be a politician but rather an agent of change.

**EMMA NEIBIG**

University of Amsterdam

Emma Neibig is a recent Bsc Political Science graduate from the University of Amsterdam, where she majored in International Relations, focusing on issues of stalled peace and democratization processes. Meanwhile she gained international experience researching and advocating for human rights awareness, humanitarian causes, and social movements. Now relocated in Berlin, Emma works as the Project Assistant at an NGO working on the intersection between technology and society, in particular, tackling the issue of misinformation.

**AIŠA AVDIĆ**

International University of Sarajevo

Aiša Avdić is a Bosnian architecture student, artist, photographer, digital designer, and activist. She is also studying International Relations as a minor program. Currently, Aiša is working on raising awareness about global warming and other environmental issues, and human rights. She advocates equal representation of women who wear hijab in the global media. Aiša is planning for all of her architectural designs to be sustainable and to minimize the negative environmental impact of buildings. She is also a member of the Association of Photographers in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and she is working on her photography portfolio that will give importance to the protection of the natural beauties of her homeland. She was also the Team Leader for the project Pozitivnije, which had the goal to make it emotionally easier for people to overcome difficult times that the pandemic caused.

**AMNA HAIDER**

University of Iowa

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Amna Haider is a graduate of the University of Iowa with B.A. degrees in Philosophy and International Relations, and a Certificate in Human Rights. Originally from Omaha, Nebraska, USA, Amna is a midwesterner at heart with aptitudes for peace-building, conversation, and international education. For example, among other roles, Amna interned with the Iowa City Foreign Relations Council and served on the University Lecture Committee to help bring experts and advocates to Iowa City who speak on global issues. After several COVID-19 cancellations, she also led the reboot of one of UI's largest events, Walk it Out: Multicultural Fashion Show. Off campus, Amna volunteered at her local refugee resettlement agency and interned for the Washington D.C.-based nonprofit, the Enabling Peace in Iraq Center. In her free time, Amna enjoys participating in community-based cultural events, attending public lectures, meeting new people, and "frolicking" under the sun with her friends and family.

# Sarajevo Fellowship 2022

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Placing Bosnia's human rights realities today into the context of its recent **violent history** and **transitional justice**.

**Local** in our  
activities,  
**international** in  
our collaboration,  
**global** in our  
reach.